

DRAFT

Governor's Blue Ribbon Water Task Force

Meeting Notes  
February 23-24, 2005  
Santa Fe, NM

Attendees: Brian Burnett, John D'Antonio, Estevan Lopez, D.L. Sanders, Larry Blair, Conci Bokum, Wayne Cunningham, Steve Hernandez, Debbie Hughes, Howard Hutchinson, Barbara Johnson, Mark Koffler, Sarah Kotchian, Elmer Lincoln, Paul Paryski, Hoyt Pattison, Bob Vocke, and Jack Westman attended the meeting.

The next meeting of the BRWTF will be March 23-24, 2005 in Albuquerque, NM.

The Task Force reviewed the status of the following water-related bills that have been introduced in the 2005 session - list follows (updated 3/14, see NM Legislature site for bill status). A new domestic well substitute bill will be introduced, which would create domestic well management areas.

**47th Legislature - State of New Mexico - First Session, 2005**

List of Bills, Capital Outlay Requests, Memorials, and Joint Memorials from the House and Senate that are related to and analyzed by the Office of the State Engineer or the Interstate Stream Commission.

Office of the State Engineer/Interstate Stream Commission	
House Bill Analysis List	
House Bill No.	Bill Name/Sponsor
	House Bill
HB 2	General Appropriation Act of 2005 - Saavedra
HB 14	Making an Appropriation to the Interstate Stream Commission for the Gallup-Navajo Pipeline Project - Begaye
HB 44	Making an Appropriation to the Interstate Stream Commission to Develop a Ute Lake Master Plan - Moore
HB 88	Making an Appropriation for a Pilot Program to Use Goats to Remove Salt Cedar and Non-Native Phreatophytes, to Enhance Water Supplies and to Improve Habitat for the Willow Flycatcher and the Silvery Minnow - Nuñez
HB 89	Making an Appropriation for a Statewide Non-Native Phreatophyte Removal Program - Nuñez
HB 91	Relating to Taxation; Providing a Personal Income Tax Credit and a Corporate Income Tax Credit for Agricultural Water Conservation Expenses; Providing for a Delayed Repeal - Nuñez
HB 126	Relating to Water; Creating the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund; Providing for Legislative Approval of Certain Indian Water Rights Settlements; Making an Appropriation - Begaye
HB 153	Relating to Occupations; Changing the Powers and Duties of the Water Quality Control

	Commission and the Department of Environment Pertaining to Regulation of Utility Operators; Increasing Fees; Providing for Hearing and Appeals; Making an Appropriation - King
HB 175	Making an Appropriation to Pay the Debt of the Fort Sumner Irrigation District to the Federal Bureau of Reclamation - Compos II
HB 190	Making an Appropriation to the Interstate Stream Commission for a Cloud-Seeding Project in the Jemez y Sangre Regional Water Planning District - Gonzales
HB 192	Making an Appropriation for the Water Resources Research Institute - Nuñez
HB 195	Relating to water, Providing for a Strategic Water Reserve, Providing for Additional Powers and Duties of the Interstate Stream Commission, Authorizing the Issuance of Severance Tax Bonds for the Acquisition of Water, Water Rights and Water Storage for the Strategic Water Reserve, Making an Appropriation - Stell
HB 236	Making an Appropriation for the Acequia Commission - Salazar
HB 237	Relating to Conservancy Districts; Requiring Elections within Certain Conservancy Districts to be Conducted by Mail-in Ballot - Garcia
HB 240	Relating to Air Pollution; Requiring New Mexico Gasoline Stations to Install Functioning Vapor Recovery Nozzles at Gasoline Pumps; Providing a Penalty - Garcia
HB 271	Relating to Finance; Authorizing the New Mexico Finance Authority to Make Loans or Grants for Certain Water Projects from the Water Project Fund; Making an Appropriation; Declaring an Emergency - Crook
HB 285	Relating to Water; Providing for Active Resource Management and Designation of Critical Management Areas; Amending and Enacting Sections of Chapter 72 NMSA 1978 to Enable the State Engineer to Regulate Domestic Wells in Critical Management Areas - Varela
HB 293	Relating to Water; Imposing an Application Fee and a Domestic Well Impact Fee for New Domestic Wells; Creating the Domestic Well Impact Fund; Making an Appropriation; Declaring an Emergency - Cervantes
HB 297	Making an Appropriation for Water Management Research and Education Programs by the Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service - Cervantes
HB 299	Making an Appropriation to the Utton Transboundary Resources Center at the University of New Mexico for an Office of Water Rights Ombudsman - Cervantes
HB 326	Making an Appropriation for a Comprehensive Hydro-Geologic Study of the Sacramento Mountains - Vaughn
HB 346	Relating to Water; Providing for a Direct Appeal to the District Court from a State Engineer Decision - Tripp
HB 348	Relating to Utilities; Requiring Water Utilization Plans for Certain Electric Power Generating Plants; Prescribing Approval Procedures; Changing Ruling Deadlines and the Size of Plants Subject to Location Approval - Tripp
HB 403	Making an Appropriation for the Water Trust Fund; Declaring an Emergency - Moore
HB 415	Relating to Water; Creating the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund; Providing for Legislative Approval of Certain Indian Water Rights Settlements; Making an Appropriation - Begaye
HB 462	Relating to Water; Enacting the Water Efficient Technology Act; Imposing Water

	Efficiency Fees for the Diversion or Withdrawal of Public Waters of the State; Creating a Fund; Making an Appropriation - Stewart
HB 491	Making an Appropriation for Water Conservation and Natural Resource Restoration Technical Assistance - Cervantes
HB 500	Relating to Water; Providing for Active Resource Management and Designation of Critical Management Areas; Amending and Enacting Sections of Chapter 72 NMSA 1978 to Enable the State Engineer to Regulate Domestic Wells in Critical Management Areas; Declaring an Emergency - King
HB 587	Relating to Water; Amending the Water Project Finance Act to Provide for Membership to the Water Trust Board and to Provide that Twenty-Five Percent of the Water Project Fund be Dedicated to Watershed Restoration - Stell
HB 589	Making an Appropriation for a Hydrographic Survey and Adjudication of the Animas Valley Watershed; Declaring an Emergency - Herrera
HB 590	Relating to Water; Prohibiting the State Engineer from Stopping the Use of Certain Domestic Use Wells - Youngberg
HB 623	Making an Appropriation to Acquire Water Rights for the Carnuel Mutual Domestic Water and Wastewater Consumers Association in Bernalillo County - McCoy
HB 661	Relating to Special Districts; Providing Authority to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission to Establish a Watershed Coordinator Position - Tripp
HB 711	Relating to Water; Providing that Water Quality Commission Regulations and Standards for Surface Water are No More Stringent than Required by Federal Law - Campos II
HB 722	Relating to New Mexico Communities; Enacting the New Mexico Healthy Communities Act; Requiring Notice and Community Impact Reports Prior to Certain Actions by Certain Regulatory Agencies; Providing Criteria for Making Certain Decisions by Certain Regulatory Agencies; Providing for Citizen Enforcement - Jujan
HB 765	Making an Appropriation to Implement the Estancia Regional Water Plan - King
HB 782	Making an Appropriation for a Permanent Water Harvesting Demonstration Project on the Santa Fe Railyard Park and Plaza - Wirth
HB 817	Making an Appropriation to the Interstate Stream Commission to Map the Acequia Junta y Cienaga - Rodella
HB 838	Relating to Sanitary Projects; Amending the Sanitary Projects Act with Regard to Associations; Amending, Repealing and Enacting Sections of the NMSA 1978 Relating to Funding Sanitary Projects; Declaring an Emergency - Nuñez
HB 859	Relating to Local Government; Delineating the Powers and Duties of the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority; Amending a Section of the NMSA 1978 - Silva
HB 864	Making an Appropriation for Salt Cedar Control in the De Baca Soil and Water Conservation District - Campos II
HB 903	Relating to Public Utilities; Providing for Simultaneous Determination of Ratemaking Principles and Public Convenience and Necessity; Authorizing Utilities to File Applications of Public Convenience and Necessity Before Filing Applications for Location Approval; Establishing Factors to be Considered When Approving Applications for Location Approval; Providing Deadlines for Approval of Applications; Allowing Approval of Applications Without a Forma Hearing; Prescribing Use of

	Ratemaking Principles and Treatments in all Proceedings - Cervantes
HB 917	Relating to Water; Providing Procedures for Prosecuting Violations of Laws Concerning the Misuse of Water and Interference with Easements for or Access to Certain Irrigation Ditches; Creating and Increasing Penalties; Providing for Civil Remedies - Lujan
HB 961	Making an Appropriation for the Interstate Stream Commission to Conduct a Study of the Salt Basin Water Resource for Use by New Mexico Communities - Stell
HB 962	Relating to Water; Requiring the State Engineer to Pay Water Masters Who are Appointed without a Request from the Affected Water District - Nuñez
HB 988	Relating to Water Rights; Creating the Three-Year Rio San Jose Adjudication Settlement Pilot Project to Encourage Settlement of Water Rights Claims; Providing for the Administration, Goals and Evaluation of the Pilot Project; Making an Appropriation - Hanosh
HB 996	Making an Appropriation for a Santa Fe River Water Master - Wallace
HB 1002	Making an Appropriation to Research and Develop the Use of Reverse Osmosis Technologies to Recycle Water Produced From Oil and Gas Exploration - Stell
HB 1010	Making an Appropriation for Watershed Restoration in the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District - King
HB 1011	Making an Appropriation for Watershed Restoration and Removal of Vegetation in the East Torrance Soil and Water Conservation District - King
HB 1014	Relating to Water; Amending Sections of the NMSA 1978 Relating to Impounding Perennial Surface Waters of the State for Watering Livestock - Nuñez
HB 1066	Making an Appropriation to Improve Water Conservation, Efficiency and Management in the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District - Sandoval
HB 1070	Relating to Water; Amending the Ground Water Storage and Recovery Act to Provide Eligibility for Ground Water Storage and Recovery by a Public Utility - Cervantes
HB 1073	Relating to Water; Adding the State Engineer's Assessment of Water Availability to a County's Assessment of Requirements for Subdivisions - King
HB 1084	Relating to Water; Making an Appropriation to the Interstate Stream Commission to Comply with New Mexico's Obligations Under the Pecos River Compact; Providing Contingencies; Providing for a Report - Lujan
HB 1088	Relating to Public Utilities; Clarifying the Definition of "Public Utility" Or "Utility" - Lujan
<b>House Joint Memorial</b>	
HJM 1	Requesting the New Mexico Legislative Council to Direct the Appropriate Interim Committee to Examine the Appropriate Method to Enable Local Governments Throughout the State to Operate and Administer Water Utility Authorities - Nuñez
HJM 7	Requesting Congress to Support the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry and to Appropriate Adequate Funds to Complete the Construction and to Operate and Maintain the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project - Begaye
HJM 16	Urging Congress to Appropriate Funds for Testing Radioactivity Levels in Certain New Mexico Homes - Harrison
HJM 33	Requesting Protection of Aboriginal Senior Water Rights of the Native American

	Nations, Pueblos and Tribes - Madalena
HJM 34	Requesting the Interstate Stream Commission to Begin Planning to Realize the Full Benefits the State of New Mexico Received in the Arizona Water Settlements Act - Stewart
HJM 44	Requesting Certain State Agencies to Study Water Conservation and Water Infrastructure Financing and Administration to Develop a Strategic Water Conservation and Infrastructure Investment Plan to Secure a Sustainable Water Supply for New Mexico's Urban, Rural, Agricultural, Industrial, Recreational and Environmental Water Needs - Lujan
HJM 45	To Urge Establishment of Minimum Recreational Pools of Water for Lakes and Reservoirs Within New Mexico State Parks - Rodella
HJM 48	Requesting the State Engineer to Conduct a Comprehensive Statewide Assessment of New Mexico's Water Obligations, Needs and Resources - Anderson
HJM 49	Requesting that the San Juan-Chama Project Water Contract Between the City of Espanola, the City and County of Santa Fe and the United States Department of the Interior be Changed to a Repayment Perpetual Agreement as an Integral Part of Addressing a Multicounty Region - Lujan
HJM 68	Requesting the Interstate Stream Commission, with the Cooperation of the Governor, the Secretary of Economic Development, the State Engineer and the Secretary of Finance and Administration, to Study the Most Effective Options for New Mexico to Conserve and Develop Ground Water in the Salt Basin and Other Ground Water Basins of New Mexico for the Benefits and Use by New Mexico Communities - Stell
HJM 77	Directing State Agencies to Comply with the Law on Submitting Material and Reports to the Legislature and Requesting State Agencies to Make Available Electronic Versions of Reports When Feasible - Cervantes
HJM 86	Requesting that the State Engineer Collaborate with the Department of Environment and Other Agencies to Develop Criteria for Water System Planning, Performance and Conservation as a Condition of State Financing - Cervantes
HJM 107	Requesting the Office of the State Engineer, the Interstate Stream Commission and the Department of Environment to Create a Joint Task Force to Study the Issue of Storm Water Management and Reuse - Trujillo

HB: House Bill

HC: House Capital Outlay Request

HJM: House Joint Memorial

HM: House Memorial

HJR: House Joint Resolution

Office of the State Engineer/Interstate Stream Commission	
Senate Bill Analysis List	
Senate Bill No.	Bill Name/Sponsor
	Senate Bill
SB 6	Capital Projects Act, Compos
SB 100	Making an Appropriation for Water Management Research and Education Programs by the Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, Papen
SB 102	Relating to Water; Providing Procedures for Prosecuting Violations of Laws Concerning the Misuse of Water and Interference with Easements for or Access to

	Certain Irrigation Ditches, Creating and Increasing Penalties; Providing for Civil Remedies, Cisneros
SB 113	Making an Appropriation for the Water Resources Research Institute, Papen
SB 117	Relating to Higher Education; Creating the Water Resources Research Institute, Papen
SB 120	Relating to Water; Providing for Active Resource Management and Designation of Critical Management Areas; Amending and Enacting Sections of Chapter 72 NMSA 1978 to Enable the State Engineer to Regulate Domestic Wells in Critical Management Areas, Cisneros
SB 123	Relating to Water; Providing for a Strategic Water Reserve; Providing for Additional Powers and Duties of the Interstate Stream Commission; Authorizing the Issuance of Severance Tax Bonds for the Acquisition of Water, Water Rights and Water Storage for the Strategic Water Reserve; Making an Appropriation, Cisneros
SB 132	Relating to Water; Changing Standards for Prioritization of Water Projects by the Water Trust Board; Providing for a Designee to the Water Trust Board; Removing the Drought Strike Team from Water Trust Board Duties; Providing for Appropriations and Donations to the Water Project Fund; Reconciling Multiple Amendments to the Same Section of Law, Harden
SB 139	Making an Appropriation for the Water Trust Fund; Declaring an Emergency - Snyder
SB 172	Relating to Water; Creating the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund; Providing for Legislative Approval of Certain Indian Water Rights Settlements; Making an Appropriation, Cisneros
SB 186	Relating to Finance; Authorizing the New Mexico Finance Authority to Make Loans or Grants for Certain Water Projects from the Water Project Fund; Making an Appropriation; Declaring an Emergency - Cravens
SB 189	Making an Appropriation for a Statewide Aquifer Mapping Project to be Conducted by the Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Cisneros
SB 239	Relating to Water; Amending the Water Project Finance Act to Provide for Membership to the Water Trust Board and to Provide that Twenty-Five Percent of the Water Project Fund be Dedicated to Watershed Restoration, Campos
SB 293	Relating to Occupations; Changing the Powers and Duties of the Water Quality Control Commission and the Department of Environment Pertaining to Regulation of Utility Operators; Increasing Fees; Providing for Hearings and Appeals; Making an Appropriation - Snyder
SB 396	Making an Appropriation for Soil and Water Conservation Districts - Altamirano
SB 417	Relating to the Conservation of Natural Resources; Enacting the Sustainable Development Testing Site Act; Providing for the Approval of Areas to be Used for Non-Industrial Research and Testing Designed to Reduce the Consumption of and Dependence on Natural Resources; Providing that Certain Research Activities Within an Approved Area are Exempt from Specified Laws, Ordinances and Rules - Cisneros
SB 444	Relating to Water; Enacting the Water Efficient Technology Act; Imposing Water Efficiency Fees for the Diversion or Withdrawal of Public Waters of the State; Creating a Fund; Making an Appropriation - Robinson
SB 451	Relating to Water; Providing for Active Resource Management and Designation of Critical Management Areas; Amending and Enacting Sections of Chapter 72 NMSA



	1978 to Enable the State Engineer to Regulate Domestic Wells in Critical Management Areas; Declaring an Emergency - Smith
SB 583	Relating to Water; Providing that Water Quality Commission Regulations and Standards for Surface Water are No More Stringent than Required by Federal Law - Ingle
SB 668	Relating to Environmental Regulation; Providing that Certain Rules Adopted Pursuant to the Hazardous Waste Act May be at Least as Stringent as Those of the Federal Government - Sanchez
SB 690	Relating to Special Districts; Providing Authority to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission to Establish a Watershed Coordinator Position - Griego
SB 693	Making an Appropriation to Improve Math and Science Skills of Disadvantaged Pre-College Students for Entry into Science and Engineering Majors at New Mexico State University - Griego
SB 699	Making an Appropriation to Implement the Estancia Regional Water Plan - Beffort
SB 711	Relating to State Rules; Providing that Certain Rules are Not Effective Until the Appropriate Legislation Committee Holds a Public Hearing on the Rule - Sharer
SB 777	Relating to Oil and Gas; Amending and Enacting Sections of the Oil and Gas Act and Amending the Geothermal Resources Conservation Act; Providing for Permits for the Discharge or Potential Discharge of Water Contaminants; Providing for Appeal from Decisions of the Oil Conservation Commission; Establishing Certain Fines; Amending, Repealing and Enacting Sections of the NMSA 1978; Making an Appropriation - Ortiz y Pino
SB 793	Relating to Water; Authorizing Irrigation Districts Created and Operating Pursuant to Chapter 73, Article 9 NMSA 1978 to Establish Water Banks for the Temporary Reallocation of Water - Neville
SB 800	Relating to Water; Repealing Session Laws that Repeal the Lower Pecos River Basin Below Sumner Lake Water Bank - Beffort
SB 817	Relating to the Environment; Providing an Amnesty Period for Registration of Storage Tanks; Providing for Registration Without Payment of Fees or Penalties During the Amnesty Period; Declaring an Emergency - Taylor
SB 819	Making an Appropriation to the Interstate Stream Commission for Multi-Stakeholder Planning Efforts in Connection with the Federal Arizona Water Settlements Act - Altamirano
SB 832	Relating to Water; Requiring the State Engineer to Pay Water Masters Who are Appointed Without a Request from the Affected Water District - Papen
SB 879	Relating to Local Government; Delineating the Powers and Duties of the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority; Amending a Section of the NMSA 1978 - Taylor
SB 900	Relating to Water; Amending Sections of the NMSA 1978 Relating to Impounding Perennial Surface Waters of the State for Watering Livestock - Martinez
SB 903	Making an Appropriation for the Central Curry Soil and Water Conservation District - Harden
SB 918	Making an Appropriation for a Documentary Film About the Repartimiento Tradition Among New Mexico Acequias - Cisneros

SB 944	Making an Appropriation to the Office of the State Engineer for a Hydrographic Study and Adjudication of the San Juan River Stream System; Declaring an Emergency - Tsosie
SB 965	Making an Appropriation to Acquire and Maintain a Geographic Information System to Enhance the Middle Rio Grande Collaborative Water Model - Sanchez
SB 967	Making an Appropriation to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico for Programs at the Upton Transboundary Resources Center at the University of New Mexico School of Law - Sanchez
SB 991	Making an Appropriation to the Board of Regents of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology for the Taos County Aquifer Monitoring Program - Cisneros
SB 992	Making an Appropriation to the Board of Regents of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology for the Taos County Aquifer Mapping Program - Cisneros
SB 1017	Relating to Municipalities and Counties; Amending Sections of the Development Fees Act to Provide for Water Rights, Transportation, Libraries, Community Centers and Schools, Consistency with Comprehensive Plans and Efficient Development and Membership on Capital Improvements Advisory Committees; Repealing a Section of the NMSA 1978 Requiring Governmental Entities to Pay Impact Fees - Feldman
SB 1028	Making an Appropriation for a Hydrographic Survey and Adjudication of the Animas Valley Watershed; Declaring an Emergency - Smith
	<b>Senate Memorial</b>
SM 2	Requesting the New Mexico Congressional Delegation, The President of the United States and the Secretary of the Interior to Support Amending the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 to Require that Credible and Sufficient Scientific Data be Available and Reviewed Before a Federal Agency Issues Decisions Pursuant to that Act - Komadina
	<b>Senate Joint Memorial</b>
SJM 47	Requesting the State Engineer to Impose a Moratorium on Transfers of Mined Ground Waters out of Their Basins of Origin - Campos

SB: Senate Bill

SJM: Senate Joint Memorial

SM: Senate Memorial

SJR: Senate Joint Resolution

SC: Senate Capital Outlay Request

The Task Force discussed the OSE/ISC funding picture with Estevan and the following observations were made:

- Funding for converting temporary FTEs to permanent (50% of conversions being supported);
- Funding for the Pecos settlement (Governor has \$10M on the table, the legislative outcome is not clear);
- Funding for the trust funds (no discussion at this time);
- Funding for OSE/ISC operations (appears reasonable);
- Funding for contractors (is being questioned, e.g., senior attorneys);
- Funding for ESA/NEPA (some confusion between litigation request and collaborative effort request); and
- Governor's \$65M request (is spread around WTB \$17M [includes some new projects], Pecos \$10M, Innovation Fund \$7M, Game & Fish \$5M, and water and wastewater projects).

John and Estevan made the following additional observations:

- NM has a preliminary compact credit on the Rio Grande of 30,000 af;



- A small compact credit was built on the Pecos, but NM leased 25,000 af and it was the 7<sup>th</sup> wettest year on record;
- The NM snowpack is substantially above average ([http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/cgi-bin/sno\\_narr3\\_pl](http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/cgi-bin/sno_narr3_pl)), however, upstream storage on the Rio Grande remains an issue with low water levels in Elephant Butte;
- The City of Albuquerque has settled its San Juan/Chama dispute with 30,000 af of storage in Abiquiu for environmental purposes;
- The Governor's priorities include the strategic river reserve, aquifer study, Indian Water Rights Settlement Act, and the domestic well substitute bill, which would create domestic well management areas (90% of the domestic well problems occurs in shallow aquifers associated with stream corridors); and
- The domestic well fee bill could be used to mitigate domestic well impacts.

The Task Force made the following observations while discussing AWRM and markets:

- Markets should be allowed to deliver environmental services;
- Values need to be placed on environmental/ecological services (e.g., water) and investment capital attracted;
- Environmental services/ecological services can be enhanced through the market place; and
- Overlapping political boundaries/service areas is an issue in 40-year and regional water planning.

John made the following observations relative to AWRM:

- 7-8 basins have been identified;
- The Lower Rio Grande is the highest priority (end of calendar year) and the Lower Pecos is expected a couple of months later (supplemental wells are mitigating);
- The San Juan schedule is not set;
- Replacement plans allow water markets to work – provides juniors with opportunity to secure water from seniors during shortages on an annual basis;
- NM must get mechanisms in place to administer water on a priority basis and allow markets to work for the good of the economy (e.g., water can move out of agriculture during dry years to M&I [higher ROI] and back to agriculture during wetter periods);
- MRGCD is contesting the general framework, but OSE will not administer from these in a specific basin – there will be basin-specific plans;
- Basins can come up with alternative strategies (e.g., San Juan or EBID surface water), but basin-specific rules, metering, and water masters are still needed as a hammer;
- A water right holder's perspective on AWRM varies depending on whether they are senior, junior, or in the middle – a regional basin approach (if any) other than AWRM will be driven by the mix of water right holders;
- Public welfare considerations need to be further refined (e.g., the Estancia Basin and RWPs);
- The treat of Texas exporting unappropriated drove NM RWP/public welfare – the issue is now moving appropriated water in the market; and
- RWPs are not enforceable.

The Task Force discussed watersheds and the following observations were made:

- An interagency group (includes, Ag. ED, EM&NR, OSE, Indian Affairs) is working the NM watershed issue;
- Funding is spread around and there is competition for funds and control;
- There is a lack of accountability in many projects;
- There is a lack science and monitoring/assessment of projects in many cases;
- An office of watershed management has been established in EM&NR;
- S&WCDs are important players and have access and have demonstrated the ability to get the job done, but a good science-based assessment of results and ROI are needed; and
- Partnerships with the feds are needed e.g., the Four Corners Area activity, which includes three national forests.

D.L. and John made the following points on AWRM:

- AWRM allows OSE to administer water based on priority administration;
- AWRM speeds up adjudication and the work of OSE feeds into it e.g., data bases and metering/measuring; and
- Aerial photography is being piloted to speed up adjudication in the San Juan Basin.